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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/362,425	07/28/1999	WILLIAM J. TISO	024/1	6854

7590

11/06/2003

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, DUC MINH

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2643

DATE MAILED: 11/06/2003

8

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/362,425

Applicant(s)

TISO ET AL.

Examiner

Duc Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 and 6-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 7, 8 and 11-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 6, 9 and 10 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

2. Claims 1-3, 7-8, 11-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Stelman (5,892,823).

Consider claims 1, 3, 17. Stelman teaches an apparatus for interfacing to a telephone line, comprising an rj-11 port (rj-11 of system interface 50; system interface 50 in combination with analog telephone 54, and hybrid or digital telephone 58 form an interface that allows voice/data accessories 60 and 62 to interface with the central office through the regulated 2-wire telephone

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line), means for automatically determining whether an rj-11 connector inserted into the rj-11 port is connected to non-telephonic equipment (data accessories 60 and 62) or to telephonic equipment (voice accessories 60 and 62); and means, responsive to the means for determining, for automatically configuring the rj-11 port to interface to either the non-telephonic equipment or a telephone network (col. 4, ln. 12-32).

Consider claim 2. Fig. 4-5, 9 read on the matrix switch.

Consider claim 7. Fig. 6 shows a PBX or key telephone system (56).

Consider claim 8. Fig. 6 shows a public switched telephone network (52).

Consider claim 11. Stelman system interface inherently configured as a DAA port so that voice accessories (60 or 62) can be connected to central office (52).

Consider claim 12. Stelman system interface inherently configured as a SLIC port so that data accessories (60 or 62) can be connected to central office (52).

Consider claims 13, 15. Stelman teaches an apparatus for interfacing with a telephone line comprising a subscriber line interface circuit port; means for automatically means for automatically determining whether a connector inserted into the subscriber line interface circuit port is connected to non-telephonic equipment (data accessories 60 and 62) or to telephonic equipment (voice accessories 60 and 62); and means, responsive to the means for determining, for automatically configuring the subscriber line interface circuit port to interface to either the non-telephonic equipment or a telephone network (col. 4, ln. 12-32).

Consider claim 14. Fig. 4-5, 9 read on the matrix switch.

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Consider claim 16. Stelman system interface inherently configured as a DAA port so that voice accessories (60 or 62) can be connected to central office (52).

Consider claim 18. Fig. 6 shows a PBX or key telephone system (56).

Consider claim 19. Fig. 6 shows a public switched telephone network (52).

Consider claims 20-21, 23-24. Data accessories 60 and 62 read on a PC or fax machine.

Consider claims 22, 25. Voice accessories 60 and 62 read on a telephone.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 6, 9-10 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

4. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

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will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Duc Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 308-7527.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Kuntz, can be reached on (703) 305-4708.

Any response to this final action should be mailed to:

Box AF


Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9315 (Group's Fax numbers)
(703) 746-7251 (Examiner's Fax number, only for proposed amendment)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

October 3, 2003


DUC NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER